

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A light stable hydrophobic polyurethane elastomer comprising:

- 5                   A) An isocyanate terminated prepolymer having an isocyanate content ranging from 4 to 12 wt.% NCO comprising the reaction product of:
- 10                    i) an OH terminated homopolymer of butadiene having a molecular weight ranging from 1000 to 4000 and an OH functionality of from 1.9 to 2.1; and
- ii) an aliphatic or cycloaliphatic diisocyanate.
- B) A diol chain extender having a molecular weight ranging from 62 to 400.

2. The elastomer according to Claim 1 wherein said homopolymer of butadiene is dihydroxyl terminated polybutadiene.

- 15                   3. The elastomer according to Claim 1, wherein said dihydroxyl terminated polybutadiene is represented by the formula:
- $\text{HO}[\text{CH}_2\text{-CH=CH}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-CH=CH-CH}_2]_n\text{CH}_2\text{-CH=CH-CH}_2\text{OH,}$
- wherein n is a number average value from about 8 to 36.

- 20                   4. The elastomer according to Claim 1, wherein said aliphatic or cycloaliphatic diisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of 1,4-tetramethylene diisocyanate, 1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate, 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,6-hexamethylene diisocyanate, 1,12-dodecamethylene diisocyanate, cyclohexane-1,3- and -1,4-diisocyanate, 1-isocyanato-2-isocyanatomethyl cyclopentane, 1-isocyanato-3-isocyanatomethyl-3,5,5-trimethyl-cyclohexane (isophorone diisocyanate or IPDI), bis-(4-isocyanatocyclohexyl)-methane, 2,4'-dicyclohexylmethane diisocyanate, 1,3- and 1,4-bis-(isocyanatomethyl)-cyclohexane, bis-(4-isocyanato-3-methylcyclohexyl)-methane,  $\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetramethyl-1,3- and/or -1,4-xylylene diisocyanate, 1-isocyanato-1-methyl-4(3)-isocyanatomethyl cyclohexane,
- 25                   2,4- and/or 2,6-hexahydrotoluylene diisocyanate and 4,4'-dicyclohexyl-methanediisocyanate (rMDI).
- 30

Sub C3  
cont.

5. The elastomer according to Claim 4, wherein said aliphatic or cycloaliphatic diisocyanate is 1-isocyanato-3-isocyanatomethyl-3,5,5-trimethyl-cyclohexane.

6. The elastomer according to Claim 4, wherein said aliphatic or cycloaliphatic diisocyanate is 4,4'-dicyclohexylmethane-diisocyanate.

7. The elastomer according to Claim 6, wherein said 4,4' - dicyclohexylmethanediisocyanate contains about 23% by weight *trans,trans*, 49% by weight *cis,trans*, and 28% by weight *cis,cis* isomer.

Sub C4

10

8. The elastomer according to Claim 1, wherein said chain extender is selected from the group consisting of 1,6-hexane-diol, 1,8-octanediol, 2,2,4-trimethylpentane 1,3-diol, 2-methyl-1,3-propanediol, ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, 1,4-butanediol, terephthalic acid bis(ethylene glycol), terephthalic acid bis(1,4-butanediol), 1,4-di(hydroxyethyl) hydroquinone, ethoxylated bisphenols, isophorone-diamine, ethylenediamine, 1,2-propylenediamine, 1,3-propylenediamine, N-methylpropylene-1,3-diamine, N,N'-dimethyl ethylenediamine, 2,4-tolylenediamine, 2,6-tolylenediamine, 3,5-diethyl-2,4-tolylenediamine, 3,5-diethyl-2,6-tolylenediamine and primary mono-, di-, tri- or tetraalkyl-substituted 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethanes.

15

9. The elastomer according to Claim 8, wherein said chain extender is 1,4-butanediol.

20

10. The elastomer according to Claim 1, wherein said hydroxyl terminated butadiene has an OH functionality ranging from 1.95 to 2.0.

sub A<sup>3</sup>

Sub C6

25

11. The elastomer according to Claim 1, wherein said isocyanate terminated prepolymer and said chain extender are combined at an NCO/OH index of between 50 and 150.

Add B2

6622T-4T450